out of the total piligrims, who visited Amarnath in 1996, and were missing, many were traced. But there are still 24 persons who have not been traced. And one of them is Arjun Singh S/o Shri Gangadhar Vaghela, Agra whose dead body has been recovered. A death certificate to this effect also been issued to the family of the deceased but despite all this, compensation has not been paid to the family so far. I would like to urge the Government through you that 24 persons who had visited Amarnath are still untraced and whosoever were traced they have not been paid any compensation, whereas the Central Government had made an announcement that it would be paying compensation. It seems that the Union Government is not taking this matter seriously. I would like to make a request to the Government that the family of the deceased piligrims gone to Amarnath, should be duly compensated and adequate relief should be provided to them. I would like to make one point more in this context, that incidents of kidnapping taking place in U.P. A youth named Achal Agarwal, an exporter has been kidnapped in Agra. That Gang is getting shelter in Gujarat. Even after making several requests to the Union Government, no help is being provided by the Government to secure release of Achal Agarwal. I would like to make a request to the Home Minister through you that all Amarnath victims should be duly compensated. At the same time, those who are untraced, they should be traced and their family members should be made aware of the latest position. Secondly, Union Government and State Governments concerned should take joint action to chalk out a strategy in order to apprehend such Inter-State gangs which are operating their activities. I have pointed out the name of Achal Agarwal and there are others who have been kidnapped and the kidnapping gang is getting shelter in Gujarat. I would like that Union Government should provide full assistance to the U.P. Government to release Achal Agarwal – an exporter's son. This is the request which I want to make.

SHRI R.L.P. VERMA (KODARMA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the flood problem in my constituency. On 22nd July, 1997 one hundred and seven persons died due to fall down of a bus in a river in Girdih area. Similarly, there are 11 other rivers on which there are no bridges due to which there is a loss of crores of rupees every year. I have drawn the attention of the Government towards it. Bihar Government has no money to construct bridges on those rivers. Bihar Government's attention has been drawn to it but it has not paid any attention to it so far. It has been reported recently that 200 persons are reported drowned to death in different rivers. Every year 500 to 1000 persons die due to catastrophy posed by these rivers. A scheme known as Bihar Plateau Area Development Project (BPDP) is being run by the Union Government and World Bank in Bihar. A sum of Rs.449 crores has been provided by the World Bank for this purpose. 30% amount has been spent on it so far and the unspent amount would be surrended to the World Bank by the year 1998. So, I would like to make a request through you that Bihar Government should be ordered to Include four Districts Girdih, Hazaribagh, Kodarma and Chatra under B.P.D.P. because these districts fall under plateau area. At the same time, the amount, which has to be surrendered should be utilized. I would like to read out the names of those 11 rivers on which the bridges are to be constructed. I would like to make a request to Central Government that it should order the Government of Bihar to take seriously the matter regarding construction of about 9000 metres long bridge on these rivers. The names of these rivers are:

1. Usri river of Girdih, 2. Bharkattaienrga river, 3. Fareabad - Badakar river; 4. Ganva Jodaseemar Sakri river 5. Chandori river, 6. Malda-Patna river 7. Lotaki river 8. Jharkhandi river 9. Kharideeh Irga river 10. Ranideeh Khowa Ghorjo Gandhari river 11. Sariga-Kheri river. Orders should be issued to construct bridges on these rivers in this golden jubilee year of our Indepen-dence.....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN *ALIAS* PAPPU YADAV (PURNEA): Sir, Government must be asked to give an explanation....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT `BACHDA' (ALMORA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I had already brought to the notice of Defence Minister the matter regarding Ranikhet cantonment in U.P.. But unfortunately, he is not present here today. The issue regarding calling or not calling out for Military in Bihar is being discussed here. Near about 200 soldiers came to the Ranikhet Cantonment in UP on 26th July, 1997 at about 5.00 A.M. in the morning. At Ranikhet Cantonment, there is an academic institution known as Vidya Bharti which runs several schools throughout the country. At Ranikhet cantonment, there was a recognised school known as 'Viveka Nand Mandir' which was being run under Vidya Bharti but the soldiers got it demolished. That is why bazar, Government offices, traffic and all other activities continue to standstill. But the army do not command respect now. I also hail from Ranikhet and this town is the Head quarters of Kumaun Regimental Centre. After that incident, I met Shri Mulayam Singh ji and urged him to take action against the Military Officer Commandants who were there. I have also met the Minister of State for Defence and also have written a letter to the Prime Minister but no action has been initiated from anywhere so far. As a result of it, the public is forced to live in the atmosphere of fear and terrorism. The public is of the opinion that this kind of terror was not unleashed and atrocities committed by the Military under Ranikhet Cantonment Act in the British regime in year 1924. Without the permission of civil authorities, Distt. Megistrate or Joint Megistrate of the area concerned, the uncalled and without any notice an entry of Military in such a way seems to be a part of a big conspiracy. Though the Defence Minister was apprised of this incident by the Fax and telephones and the life continues to be paralysed, yet taking no action so far in this regard creates doubts and apprehensions. All elected members of the cantonment Board have resigned. They are being threatened to be shot dead.

Sir, this is a very serious matter and I want that the Government should interfere in this matter. A judicial enquiry should be conducted against those erring officers who have demolished it without serving any prior notice. They should be paid compensation for Vivekanand Vidya Mandir which